



Universidad de Valladolid

Subject name	Philosophy of Science
UVa subject code	41221
ECTS	6
Department *	Filosofía
Area *	Lógica y Filosofía de la Ciencia
Lecturer name	Adán Sus
Description	<p>This course is intended as an introduction to the philosophy of science. We will focus on some of the fundamental problems of contemporary philosophy of science. The perspective of the course has its origins in some philosophical discussions developed in the 20th century, although many of the problems connect directly to questions linked to the birth of modern science.</p> <p>We will present and discuss the main questions relative to the methodology of science and which are considered to be essential to understanding how contemporary science works. These include issues like empirical confirmation, induction and explanation. Furthermore, we will briefly look at the ontological dimension of science through the debate regarding scientific realism.</p>
Learning outcomes	The student will become familiar with the main problems in contemporary philosophy of science and will be able to identify and discuss the fundamental methodological questions of present science.
Contents	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction2. Confirmation of scientific hypotheses3. Scientific concepts4. The problem of induction5. Scientific Explanation6. Realism



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Methodology	The perspective of the course is systematic. The professor will present the main problems in some of the classes, together with the conceptual tools and the references that are necessary to tackle them. The rest of the the classes will be dedicated to discuss relevant case-studies and to solve some exercises.
Evaluation	The evaluation will take into account the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Written exam of the theoretical part (70%)– Exercises and case-studies (30%)– Short essay (optional)
Bibliography	This is some of the basic bibliography of the subject. More specific references will be provided in the course. <p>Barker, G; Kitcher, P. <i>Philosophy of Science. A new introduction</i>. Oxford University Press, 2014.</p> <p>Bird, A. <i>Philosophy of Science</i>. Oxford, Routledge, 1998.</p> <p>French, S. <i>Philosophy of Science. Key Concepts</i>, London, Bloomsbury, 2016.</p> <p>Godfrey-Smith, P. <i>Theory and Reality</i>, The University of Chicago Press, 2003.</p> <p>Goodman, N. <i>Fact, Fiction and Forecast</i>, Bobbs-Merrill, 1973.</p> <p>Hempel, C., <i>Philosophy of Natural Science</i>, Prentice-Hall, 1966.</p> <p>Okasha, S. <i>Philosophy of Science. A Very Short Introduction</i>. Oxford University Press, 2002.</p> <p>Psillos, S. & Curd, M. <i>The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Science</i>, London, Routledge, 2008.</p>

*Denominación del departamento y del área en castellano